

RELIEF OF CONTRACTORS FOR POST OFFICES AND OTHER BUILDINGS.

JANUARY 27, 1921.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. LANGLEY, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 15714.]

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 15714) "To amend an act entitled 'An act for the relief of contractors and subcontractors for the post offices and other buildings and work under the supervision of the Treasury Department, and for other purposes,'" having duly considered the same, hereby make report of it to the House, with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

The original act, which was approved August 25, 1919, provided for the relief of contractors and their subcontractors, including material men, for losses on contracts for the construction of post offices and other buildings under the supervision of the Treasury Department, shown to have been caused by war conditions alone, and included a provision to the effect that "no claims for such reimbursement shall be paid unless filed with the Treasury Department within three months after the passage of this act." The purpose of the present bill is to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to consider and act upon nine claims which failed to reach the department within three months after the date of the act referred to. The Secretary of the Treasury recommends favorable action on this bill, as is evidenced by its report on the same, which is as follows:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 17, 1921.

THE CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
House of Representatives.

SIR: Reference is made to your request of January 14 for a report in connection with bill H. R. 15714, which provides that the act of Congress entitled "An act for the relief of contractors and subcontractors for the post offices and other buildings

and work under the supervision of the Treasury Department, and for other purposes," approved August 25, 1919, that "no claim for such reimbursement shall be paid unless filed with the Treasury Department within three months after the passage of this act," be amended to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to consider and act upon any claims filed under said act of Congress which were received in the Treasury Department on or before December 5, 1919.

This legislation would permit the consideration of nine claims which were mailed too late to reach this department within the time fixed by Congress, namely, three months from August 25, 1919. It is recommended that favorable consideration be given to this bill.

Respectfully,

D. F. HOUSTON, *Secretary.*

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